

New Deal Café Board of Directors Meeting (online)

Monday, Mar. 28, 2022

MINUTES

Attendees

Board of Directors: Michael Hartman (President), Mark Cheater (secretary), Katy Gaughan, John Campanile; Absent: Dorian Winterfeld (Treasurer)

Audit Committee: John Appiah-Duffell; Absent: Mike Stark

Cafe Music Coordinator: (absent)

Cafe Food & Beverage Manager: Dan Gillotte

FONDCA: Meg Haney, Barbara Glick, Julie Winters

Visitors: Brett McCoy, Connie Davis, Deb Daniel, Johanna Jones, Tom Jones, Lore Rosenthal, MaryGrace Waldron, Alan Zambreny, Susan Harris, Sandy Irving, Abby Crowley

Call to order – 6:32 pm

Approval of minutes of 2/28/22 board meeting: *approved unanimously*

Reports

President: Michael H. welcomed everyone and turned the gavel over to Mark C.

Treasurer: John Campanile shared the Treasurer report in Dorian's stead. After sharing bank statements, John shared that we recently paid off one member loan for \$10,000, and that the EIDL loan payments will begin in June at \$500/month. Michael gave the update that we recently received word that we'll have another six months before we need to begin these payments. There was some discussion of the city's ARPA funds distribution; members were encouraged to submit comments to the city at <http://www.engagegreenbelt.org/arpa/brainstormers/arpa-ideas>. Michael and Dan have participated in public forums with the city about small business needs in the pandemic.

Secretary: Mark congratulated Mike McMullen for his GATe award, which he received for his videography of cafe performances, and thanked Susan Harris for her work posting short videos of cafe performances.

Audit Committee: John AD once again encouraged members to step up and volunteer their time with the audit committee, asking folks to email audit@newdealcafe.com.

Cafe Manager: Dan shared that for the first time since July, the cafe is at adequate staffing levels, with all spots filled. March was our strongest month yet, with each week bringing in stronger numbers than the week before, thanks in part to Caitlin's music programming. This has given us space to breathe & plan a bit more for the future. New menu items coming online: new salads & dressings; seasonal smoothies and beers coming up. We had a virtual visit with the Dept of Labor which surfaced no issues with pay, recordkeeping, etc--passed with flying colors.

FONDCA: We have a new art coordinator, Mary Ann Lipovsky, who will be starting with the Green Man festival. Jazz festival is scheduled for June 25; Blues Festival scheduled Sept 17; Crazy Quilt, October 8.

Music Coordinator: Katy Gaughan shared the report as Caitlin Gompf was absent. Caitlin has dramatically grown the cafe's social media activity, and worked to produce fliers and calendars. She's working on bookings as well, including for the nights of Green Man Festival. This Saturday, April 2, we will be hosting a benefit concert for the cafe.

Old Business

Visit from State Comptroller: Katy Gaughan reported that the NDC had a visit in early March from State Comptroller Peter Franchot, who presented the cafe with a certificate of recognition.

COVID monitors: John Campanile gave an update on the cafe's vaccination policy--namely, that the cafe is suspending its vaccination requirement. While COVID monitors will no longer be required, the cafe is establishing a new "Host" volunteer position. For now, masking policy will continue as it has been: customers strongly encouraged to mask, staff required to mask.

Annual Membership Meeting: May 22, in-person at the cafe (barring unforeseen circumstances). Members are encouraged to run for board seats (two seats are opening up) and for audit committee. If you have questions on your membership status, contact Bill Jones.

Discussion

Members raised questions about alcoholic beverages (quality control re: beer-to-foam ratio, whether the bartenders do a taste test, what the alcohol content of the beer is); upkeep of the restrooms; variety on the lunch menu; and cleanliness of the backroom tables.

Next Meeting: Apr. 25 at 6:30pm.

The board adjourned the public session at 7:42 pm and went into executive session to discuss and resolve a patron-related issue.

Submitted by John Appiah-Duffel 3/30/22; approved unanimously 4/25/22